[154 cont.]
535 festival, which Carteret saw on the Reef Islands. The men dance in a circle and, with whips about two meters long ("as though made of green grass") and handles half as long, [155] beat their backs and thighs until they bleed. Here, too, [Fig. 64 appears here] as in the Tangaloa cult, bows and arrows are left at home (1).

1. Joest in Baessler, p. 396. Carteret, p. 359.

526 [171] As for nonreligious games, there is first of all the sport of surf-riding on boards two meters long and one meter wide and bent upward slightly in front, but not toward land, as in Hawaii, but in the opposite direction. A game which is likewise played by adults consists of filling a halved coconut shell with sand, placing a burning canary nut on it, and then making the shell float on the surf without letting the candle go out. Also, snapping round pebbles into small pits is a pastime of adults (2). The game of "taking away," which Joest says was

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2. Joest in Baessler, p. 396.

introduced only a few years ago, was mentioned by Coote more than a decade and a half earlier (3). As for children's toys,

3. Joest, Tagebuch, p. 83. Coote, p. 166.

we should perhaps mention the boat models, the purpose of which, however, is not definitely known; the larger ones on Nufiloli could even be boats used by children, according to Coote (4). On Vanikoro Gaimard mentions the child's game

4. Coote, p. 155. R.-J.-Museum, No. 17854.

/200 cont./

411 [938]

arrow shafts were undecorated. -- The Reef Islanders obtain their arrows from Nitendi (Girieud and Herrenschmidt, p. 105), where they are made on the west coast (Coombe, p. 187).]

to find any specimens in which the entire point is made of bone, as in the specimen, No. 12, illustrated there (7). While the

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7. [O'Ferrall, section "A 'Club-House'" = Coombe, p. 190 (together with Ethn., I, p. 134), confirms that bone points were made from disinterred human bones. According to the same author, the points are are smeared with red to transmit "malete" to them.]

[965] [1118]

origin of the ordinary decorations on the wooden intermediate section [Ethn., I, p. 137, Fig. 62, Nos. 12-42; AfA, new series, VIII, p. 310, Figs. 3-14] is obviously from barbed hooks, the meaning of the /201/ peculiar carving [occurring on a certain type] just below the point [Ethn., I, Fig. 62, Nos. 17-28; AfA, new series, VIII, Figs. 7, 8, 10, 13] is unclear. /Fig. 47 appears here./ Perhaps it can be traced back to the zigzag pattern of a lashing such as is often found on New Hebrides arrows and would in this case be imitated in wood, like the barbed hooks. One side of the arrow, however, is always smooth at this place, perhaps so that the arrow will slide easily along the bow.

● 526 151

The marksmanship of the natives does not seem to be outstanding. At 25 meters, six archers were able to hit the rib of a palm leaf stuck in the ground one meter high only once in 20 shots. /Fig. 48 appears here./ They shoot with extraordinary force, however; the arrows almost penetrate the trunk of a coconut palm, and the maximal range is about 200 meters.